

Appl. No. 10/089,901
Amdt. dated May 17, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Apr. 26, 2004

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The invention relates to flexible straws with one (or more) corrugated zone (flexible zone) comprising re-entrant overlapping folds (annular bellows folds), which accompany ~~are attached to~~ the packaging of fruit juices, milks, coffees etc. and are continuously bent until their use in order to take up less space. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The corrugated zone (flexible zone) of the straw according to present invention, comprises expanded (unfolded) re-entrant overlapping folds (annular bellows folds) and contracted (folded) re-entrant overlapping folds (annular bellows folds) interspersed among the expanded ones ~~so that not many consecutive expanded folds exist without interference of one or more contracted ones.~~ Further, a number of the first folds are contracted, so that after straightening, the straw may bend to all directions. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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-- No mention is made to straws that accompany ~~are attached~~ to the packaging of fruit juices, milks, coffees etc. and are continuously bent until their use. Besides, approximately 28 years have lapsed since then but no one has thought of some of the recommended innovations. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The present invention describes the way we can overcome the problems created by continuous bending of the straws that accompany packed fruit juices, milks, coffees etc. and achieve the best possible straightening up and functionality of them. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- We aim at keeping a number of the first folds 1 contracted (e.g. 2-4 first folds) so that after straightening, the straw may bend to all directions thanks to the contracted folds. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- In order definite folds remain contracted, apart from their number certain other factors are of importance as well, like the material, point (or points) at which pressure is exerted to bend the straw etc. A skilled person can easily apply more than one

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technical solutions. For example, a number of fulcrums of suitable shape are placed in appropriate positions and the pressure for bending is exerted on an appropriate point or points of the straw. --